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Opening Doors



*A Woman's Guide
to Ontario Government
Programs and Services*



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In the information age in which we live, knowledge is power. What you know, and knowing where to find what you need are crucial.

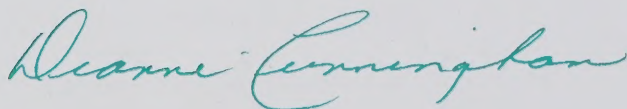
As Minister Responsible for Women's Issues, I am committed to the social, economic and legal equality of women and girls across Ontario. Our government offers a wide range of programs and services to help achieve these goals.

This publication is a brief overview of the services which the government provides directly, or supports through transfer payments to agencies and organizations throughout the province. These services and programs help in opening doors to education and training, to employment supports, entrepreneurial opportunities, health and social programs, justice related services, communities and volunteer opportunities.

The information covers services and programs designed for women and girls. It also outlines programs which are not specifically designed for women but are nonetheless helpful to women trying to achieve their full economic and social potential.

'Opening Doors' is not intended to replace the more detailed information that is available from each provincial ministry for specific programs. We've tried to give you some keys that will open doors to the many services and programs offered through the various ministries, in a simple, easy to use format.

I hope this publication will assist in opening doors for you.



Dianne Cunningham
Minister Responsible for Women's Issues



Opening Doors

The Ontario Women's Directorate wants to ensure that women have quick access to a full range of information about services and programs supported by the Ontario Government. Related programs are often found in several different ministries, and without a guide, the search for information can be difficult.

To address this need, the publication 'Opening Doors' has been developed.

It presents information about programs that are specifically designed to support the needs of women. It also provides information about services and supports that are not specific to women, but which can be helpful in many ways.

The information is presented in a program cluster format, as more than one provincial ministry may provide services and supports for each of the areas including:

Women & Communities & Voluntary Action

Women & Economic Self-Sufficiency

Women & Education

Women & Employment

Women & Health and Social Services

Women & Justice

Women & Recreation

Each category provides a brief overview of the services supported by the ministries of the Ontario Government.

For further information, visit the Government of Ontario Website at <http://www.gov.on.ca>.

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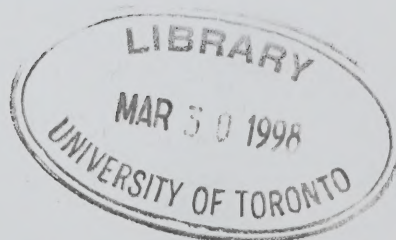
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Opening Doors

*Women & Communities
& Voluntary Action*

Community Economic Development

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs supports the economic development efforts of rural communities by helping them design strategic action plans as they build the capacity to deal with economic and social change. Support for individual entrepreneurs in business development is a key approach to economic renewal.

Contact: Agriculture and Rural Division:
Rural Development, (519) 826-3278.

Leadership Training

To promote strong leadership at the community level including volunteer and business organizations (e.g., Master Gardeners Program, Community Food Advisor Program, 4-H) and leadership training programs designed to meet client needs.

Contact: Local Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Offices or the Agricultural and Rural Division, (519) 826-3203.

Northern Development Offices

Provide one-window access to provincial government services and information in northern communities.

Contact: Northern Development Officers,
Ministry of Northern Development and
Mines:

Northeastern Area

Blind River

Ontario Government Building
62 Queen Street, P.O. Box 760
Blind River, Ontario, P0R 1B0
(705) 356-2226

Chapleau

P.O. Box 488, 31 Birch Street East
Chapleau, Ontario, P0M 1K0
(705) 864-1515

Cochrane

161 Sixth Avenue, Box 668
Cochrane, Ontario, P0L 1C0
(705) 272-4274

Elliot Lake

126 Ontario Avenue
Elliot Lake, Ontario, P5A 1Y2
(705) 848-7133

Espanola

Espanola Mall
800 Centre Street, Unit 101
Espanola, Ontario, P5E 1J3
(705) 869-1532

Hearst

P.O. Box 1688
904 George Street
Hearst, Ontario, P0L 1N0
(705) 362-4358

Iroquois Falls

P.O. Box 460, 260 Main Street
Iroquois Falls, Ontario, P0K 1G0
(705) 232-4001

Kapuskasing

RR #2, West Road
Kapuskasing, Ontario, P5N 2X8
(705) 335-6008

Kirkland Lake

P.O. Box 100, 10 Government Road East
Kirkland Lake, Ontario, P2N 3M6
(705) 567-3291

Mindemoya

Box 128, King and Young Streets
Mindemoya, Ontario, P0P 1S0
(705) 377-5396

Moosonee

P.O. Box 307, 5 First Street
Moosonee, Ontario, P0L 1Y0
(705) 336-2991

New Liskeard

P.O. Box 68, 310 Whitewood Avenue
New Liskeard, Ontario, P0J 1P0
(705) 647-7391

North Bay

147 McIntyre Street North
North Bay, Ontario, P0J 1P0
(705) 494-4164

Parry Sound

70 Church Street
Parry Sound, Ontario, P2A 1Y9
(705) 746-4296

Sturgeon Falls

94 King Street, Box 1930
Sturgeon Falls, Ontario, P0H 2G0
(705) 753-2900

Wawa

P.O. Box 1370, 27 Gold Street
Wawa, Ontario, P0S 1K0
(705) 856-2354

Northwestern Area

Atikokan

Voyageur Mall, P.O. Box 940
Atikokan, Ontario, P0T 1C0
(807) 223-8500

Dryden

28A Earl Avenue
Dryden, Ontario, P8N 1X5
(807) 223-8500

Fort Frances

2-130 Second Street East
Fort Frances, Ontario, P9A 1M5
(807) 274-5329

Geraldton

P.O. Box 69, 305 Main Street
Geraldton, Ontario, P0T 1M0
(807) 854-0266

Ignace

P.O. Box 196, 100 Main Street
Ignace, Ontario, P0T 1T0
(807) 934-2260

Kenora

12 Main Street South, P.O. Box 5050
Kenora, Ontario, P9N 3X9
(807) 468-2803

Manitouwadge

P.O. Box 1168, Manitou Road
Manitouwadge, Ontario, P0T 2C0
(807) 826-3227 ext. 249

Marathon

P.O. Box 280, 2 Stevens Avenue
Marathon, Ontario, P0T 2E0
(807) 229-1153

Nipigon

P.O. Box 8, 16 Front Street
Nipigon, Ontario, P0T 2J0
(807) 887-3230

Rainy River

P.O. Box 430, 408 Atwood Avenue
Rainy River, Ontario, P0W 1L0
(807) 852-3287

Red Lake

P.O. Box 950, 227 Howey Street
Red Lake, Ontario, P0V 2M0
(807) 727-2870

Sioux Lookout

P.O. Box 147, 62 Queen Street
Sioux Lookout, Ontario, P8T 1A2
(807) 737-1318

Thunder Bay

435 South James Street, Suite 332
Thunder Bay, Ontario, P7E 6E3
(807) 475-1425

Policy Voice and Capital Coordination

Through the interaction of its field staff with northerners, the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines provides an opportunity for input to Ontario Government policies and capital decisions to reflect the priorities and concerns of northerners.

Contact: (705) 670-7003 (policy issues);
(705) 670-7139 (capital issues).

Telecommunications Access Partnerships (TAP)

The TAP initiative works with entrepreneur sectors and communities to improve Ontario's competitiveness through advanced telecommunications applications and infrastructure. Ontario based groups or consortia can submit proposals to develop shared regional or community networks involving broad-based public and private sector partnerships that improve access to advanced information highway services.

Contact: Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Tourism, (416) 326-9639.

Victim/Witness Assistance Program

The Victim/Witness Assistance Program promotes the participation of the public in the criminal justice process by recruiting and training volunteers for the program. Volunteers are assigned tasks such as accompanying victims/witnesses into the courtroom, providing basic information on the court process as well as emotional support.

Contact: Ministry of the Attorney General,
(416) 326-2429.

Volunteer Linkages

This five year program was launched by the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation in April 1997 to help strengthen the province's voluntary sector, promote volunteerism and increase recognition of outstanding volunteers.

Linkages is delivered through volunteer organizations in partnership with government and business.

The first three initiatives are: a public awareness program; the use of technology to meet the needs of volunteer organizations; and a program to honour volunteers who serve in many sectors, including agriculture, sports and recreation, and culture. In addition, a youth volunteer award program will be established in Ontario schools in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Training. New initiatives will be developed in consultation with the voluntary sector.

The goal of Linkages is to ensure that the volunteer spirit, which is vital to the health and well-being of every community, thrives in the future.

Contact: Volunteer Linkages Inquiries Line, (416) 314-7541.

Volunteer Programs

The Ministry of the Solicitor General and Correctional Services encourages and promotes the province-wide development of volunteer programs to assist in the delivery of community and institutional correctional programs. All volunteers receive training and security clearance prior to participation in ministry programs. In 1996, 104 volunteer coordinators supervised approximately 5,000 volunteers throughout Ontario.

Volunteers act as a liaison with the community and facilitate citizens' understanding and acceptance of correctional programs. They serve as community sentencing boards and generally promote community participation in the correctional process.

For community programs, the volunteer's principal role is to assist in the supervision of selected probation and parole cases. They are involved in functions such as: pre-sentence investigations for the courts under the supervision of a probation and parole officer; and delivering programs such as Community Service Orders, Victim-Offender Reconciliation, literacy training, drug and alcohol abuse related counselling, court intake and one-on-one counselling.

Volunteers in institutions perform a variety of tasks aimed at enriching program delivery. This includes one-on-one educational tutoring, addiction counselling, self-help group counselling, arts and crafts, Native programs, chaplaincy services, literacy tutoring, recreation, companionship and clerical services.

Contact: For more information about volunteering for correctional programs throughout the province, contact Adult Institution Operations at (705) 494-3332.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, you are advised to contact directly the correctional institution in your community or the local probation and parole office. They are listed in the blue pages of the telephone book.

Opening Doors



*Women & Economic
Self-Sufficiency*

Bill 96, Proposed Tenant Protection Act

Bill 96, the proposed Tenant Protection Act, will reform Ontario's system of rent regulation, maintain tenant protection, improve maintenance of rental housing and set the stage for the construction of new rental housing in the province.

Under the Act, tenants will continue to be protected from unfair rent increases by the rent control guidelines. Tenants will also be protected from arbitrary evictions and will be able to challenge illegal rent increases and apply for rent reductions.

The Act also moves landlord and tenant disputes out of the courts and creates a new, less formal system of adjudication called the Ontario Rental Housing Tribunal.

Contact: Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, (416) 585-7529.

Business Registration and Information

Registration, dissolution or withdrawal of business names of sole proprietors, partnerships, and corporations that carry on business in Ontario, can be done either at the Companies Branch of the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations or at any of the 61 Ontario Business Connect (OBC) workstations located throughout the province.

OBC workstations also permit entrepreneurs to conduct searches of unincorporated businesses, and complete applications electronically for Retail Sales Tax Vendor Permits, the Employer Health Tax, Health Tax for the self-employed and Worker's Compensation.

At the Companies Branch, clients can do public searches of documents relating to all types of businesses operating in Ontario. All existing search products, corporations on Microfiche Index and Ontario Gazette Listings are available.

Contact: Companies Branch – 393 University Ave., 2nd Fl. Suite 200 – In the Toronto area phone (416) 314-8880 or fax (416) 314-4852. For toll-free call 1-800-361-3223.

For information on the nearest OBC workstation, call (416) 314-9151 in the Toronto area or toll-free at 1-800-565-1921.

For electronic access to public records contact Cyberbahn Inc., through the Internet at <http://www.cyberbahn.ca> or by telephone at (416) 595-9522 in the Toronto area or toll-free at 1-800-806-0003 or contact Oncorp Direct Inc., at tel. (416) 923-9879 and fax (416) 364-3975 in the Toronto area or toll-free at 1-800-461-7772.

Business Self-Help Offices

The Business Self-Help Offices are self-directed resource centres for entrepreneurs, providing information on starting a small business. They are managed by the Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Tourism in co-operation with the local municipalities in which they are located. They provide small business entrepreneurship seminars. These seminars develop entrepreneurial skills.

Business Publications

These business publications outline the basic requirements for starting a small business. The publications are also available at Government of Ontario bookstores.

Contact: Local Self-Help Offices listed in the blue pages of local telephone books.

Additional business information is available on the Ontario Government Internet Website: <http://www.gov.on.ca>.

Canada-Ontario Business Call Centre

The Centre provides answers to questions on support available to entrepreneurs including how to start a business. The Centre is a co-operative service between the Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Tourism and Industry Canada.

Contact: (416) 954-4636.

Child Care

The child care system provides a range of services from private and non-profit licensed centre-based and home child care, to resource centres, care for special needs children and informal home child care.

Fee subsidies are provided to low income families. Subsidies enable many parents to find and/or keep a job.

The Ministry of Community and Social Services sets policy directions and priorities, allocates funding and establishes program standards. The Ministry's Area Offices provide information to the general public, approve and monitor agency and municipal budgets, license child care programs and provide input on local child care plans.

In addition, in the 1997 Ontario Budget, the government announced a new child care tax credit. This credit will provide \$40 million in assistance to lower income working families with child care expenses.

Contact: Local Ministry of Community and Social Services Offices (as below – see Social Assistance).

Commodity Loan Guarantee Program

Provides operating credit at competitive rates for the production of eligible crops.

Contact: Agriculture Commodity Corporation, (519) 766-0544 and 1-888-278-8807.

Community Partners Program

Funds Housing Help services in 23 communities throughout Ontario. Services assist low-income households to find stable and adequate housing, with special focus on people leaving public institutions e.g. shelters and hospitals.

Contact: Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, (416) 585-7419.

Deposit Institutions

Provide information and assistance in understanding statutory requirements to individuals and groups who may wish to engage in the business they regulate – credit unions, co-operatives, loan and trust companies, and mortgage brokers.

Contact: Ministry of Finance Offices:

Credit unions and co-operatives

(416) 326-9300 fax: (416) 326-9313

Loan and trust companies

(416) 329-9000

Mortgage Brokers

(416) 326-9045 fax: (416) 326-9004

Farm Family Advisor Program

Provides peer counselling services to farm families in financial difficulty.

Contact: Local Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Offices or (519) 846-0941 or toll-free 1-800-265-8332.

Farm Plus Plan (Rural Loans Pool)

Program allows participating credit unions and *caisses populaires* to channel money from local GIC deposits into a special pool for the exclusive use of farm related business loans and mortgages. Applicants must meet normal lending requirements.

Contact: Local Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Offices or the Farm Assistance Programs Branch (519) 826-3711.

Integrated Approach to Regional Economic Activities

The Ministry of Northern Development and Mines offers an integrated approach to regional economic development activities in Northern Ontario. As part of this process, an Ontario Women's Directorate staff person has been integrated within the Ministry. Through this initiative, northern clients will benefit from one-stop access to the Ontario Government's economic development programs and services through area teams.

Contact: (807) 475-1678 or (705) 670-7139.

Land Registry

The 55 offices across Ontario register and store documents relating to ownership and encumbrances of real property under the Land Titles and Registry system. All registered and deposited records are available to the public, for a fee, to search title or obtain information on real property ownership.

Contact: Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations, (416) 314-4880.

New Exporters to Border States Program

The New Exporters to Border States Program (NEBS) assists business people in learning the intricacies of exporting to U.S. border states.

Contact: Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Tourism, (416) 325-6659.

Non-Profit Housing Programs

Provide temporary shelter for victims of abuse who are given priority on waiting lists in public and non-profit housing. Permanent housing projects dedicated to accommodating women victims of violence are also available.

Contact: Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, (416) 585-7498 or (416) 585-6377.

Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation

Promotes public infrastructure improvements focusing on telecommunications, regional development and tourism. A Board of northern stakeholders defines the Corporation's investment strategies.

Contact: Toll-free 1-800-461-8329.

Ontario Feeder Cattle Loan Guarantee Program

Guarantee of Loans to "Feeder Cattle Cooperatives" to purchase feeder cattle for feeding by members of the cooperatives. Cooperatives negotiate competitive interest rates and terms of loans with the lender.

Contact: Local Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Offices or the Ontario Cattlemen's Association, (519) 824-0334.

Ontario Housing Corporation

Access to Assisted Housing

Provides subsidized housing to low-income households (not emergency housing); placement depends on need.

Priority Access to Assisted Housing

Provides subsidized housing to victims of abuse on a 'rent-g geared-to-income' basis.

Contact: Local Housing Authority listed in the blue pages of local telephone books or for program information (416) 585-6396.

Ontario New Home Warranty Program

Helps resolve disputes between buyers and builders arising during the builder's warranty period. The program also provides consumer education to home buyers regarding mandatory warranty coverage.

Contact: Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations, 5160 Yonge Street, 6th Floor, Toronto (416) 229-9200 in the Toronto area or toll-free 1-800-668-0124.

Ontario-Quebec Student Job Exchange

Provides opportunities for university students from Ontario to work during the summer in a ministry or agency of the Government of Quebec. Ontario students improve their knowledge of the French language and also become better acquainted with the social and cultural life of Quebec.

Jobs are 13 weeks from mid-May to mid-August and half are in major Quebec cities. While the Government of Ontario will subsidize the return travel expenses for participants, students are responsible for arranging and paying for their own accommodation.

Application forms are available at university placement offices in December and interviews are held on campus in the spring.

Contact: The Training Hotline, Management Board of Cabinet – 1-800-387-0777 or (416) 326-5656.

Open for Business Campaign

Provides coordinating support for trade and investment marketing initiated by northern communities and enterprises. These initiatives are aimed at improving the quality of life for all northerners, including women.

Contact: Ministry of Northern Development and Mines toll-free at 1-800-461-2287.

Partners for Change

Through public and private sector partnerships, the Ontario Women's Directorate (OWD) assists the Ontario Government in achieving its commitment to the social, economic and legal equality of women.

To support these priorities, the OWD has launched a multi-sector partnership initiative called Partners for Change which consists of two components: Partners for Change Projects and Partners for Change Networks.

Partnerships are encouraged among a range of sectors including business, labour, volunteers, education and health to develop initiatives that foster women's economic self-sufficiency and to stop violence. Partners contribute resources and expertise, share responsibility and develop projects that lead to equal opportunity for women. Current Partners for Change Projects include Women and Entrepreneurship – an annotated resource of innovative models in Canada, a multi-media youth awareness campaign and gender equity education.

In addition to bringing these sectors together, the Ontario Women's Directorate provides input and support to ministries within the Ontario Government and encourages public-private sector partnerships that benefit women across Ontario.

Contact: (416) 314-0356 or visit the OWD on the Internet at <http://www.gov.on.ca/OWD>.

Pension Commission of Ontario

Provides information to pension plan members through publications:

“Understanding Your Pension Plan – A Guide for Members of Employer Sponsored Pension Plans”; and “When Your Pension Plan Winds Up – What it Means to Members”.

Issues of particular interest to women are pension credit splitting at time of marriage breakdown, termination of employment, pensions for surviving spouses and the informed use of spousal waivers.

Contact: (416) 314-1042, fax: (416) 314-0650. A Website is under development.

Personal Property Security Registration (PPSR)

The 49 PPSR offices across Ontario allow a person who lends money and uses personal property (e.g., motor vehicle) as collateral for the loan, to file notice of the security agreement through the registration of a financial statement. The PPSR system also provides an inquiry service allowing people to determine, when buying the property or accepting it for security as collateral for a loan, whether the owner has previously registered the property for security or owes money for repair and storage of the property.

Contact: Registrations can be submitted by mail to: Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations, Personal Properties Branch, 393 University Ave., 3rd Fl., Toronto, ON, M7A 2H6 or at the Toronto counter in the Companies Branch, at 393 University Ave., 2nd Fl., or at one of the 49 PPSR offices.

For information on the nearest PPSR office or to conduct a telephone search, call: (416) 325-8847 in the Toronto area or toll-free 1-800-267-8847.

Priority Project Funding – Grant Program

The Ontario Women's Directorate (OWD) funds community-based organizations to undertake projects that address one of two priority areas: 1) Community Safety and Violence Against Women Prevention; and 2) Economic Self-Sufficiency for Women. There is added emphasis on partnership projects which involve collaboration and coordination at the community level.

The maximum funding available for individual projects is \$24,000.

Contact: (416) 314-0339.

Proclamation of Family Responsibility and Support Arrears Enforcement Act, 1996

The Family Responsibility Office (formerly the Family Support Plan) of the Ministry of the Attorney General administers approximately 157,000 cases. More than \$1 billion is owing in arrears to families, mostly children and women.

The Family Support Plan has been significantly restructured, changing it from a cheque processing office to an enforcement agency. Areas of focus of the legislation include Credit Bureau Reporting, Drivers' Licence Suspension, and changes to wage deduction schemes.

Contact: For basic information about a case, clients can call (416) 326-1818 in the Greater Toronto area or elsewhere in Ontario, they can call toll-free 1-800-267-4330. For assistance with more difficult or complex questions, clients can contact a Client Services Associate toll-free at 1-800-267-4330.

Social Assistance

Provides financial assistance to persons in need who are unable to fully support themselves, and at the same time encourages activities among recipients which will lead to self-reliance.

Provincial Allowances and Benefits are provided to persons in need as a result of advanced age, a major physical disability or a mental impairment or blindness; to sole support parents with dependent children who are widowed, deserted, divorced, unmarried or separated; to foster parents with foster children; to residents of institutions; to handicapped children cared for at home and to clients taking vocational rehabilitation training.

Municipal/First Nations allowances and benefits provide resources to sustain, usually on a short-term basis, a basic standard of living and care for anyone who can show inability to provide for themselves.

Through Ontario Works, the government has set a new expectation for the delivery of social assistance in this province. Now being phased in across the Province, Ontario Works is a balanced and responsible program designed to break dependency on welfare. Ontario Works replaces the General Welfare Assistance Program.

Ontario Works is a mandatory program. Municipalities must ensure that welfare recipients who are eligible for the program participate in activities leading to self-sufficiency to remain eligible for assistance.

Recipients, except people with disabilities, seniors and sole support parents with young children, will be required to accept offers of community placement, training and/or employment support or placement as an ongoing condition of eligibility. Note: all sole support parents are exempted initially.

While the actual administration of the Ontario Drug Benefit Plan is the responsibility of the Ministry of Health, all beneficiaries of both Provincial Allowances and Benefits and General Welfare Assistance are provided with prescription drugs. The social assistance recipient is responsible for the \$2.00 co-payment charge.

Contact: Local Ministry of Community and Social Services Offices:

Barrie Area

(705) 737-1311 or 1-800-461-7551

Hamilton Area

(905) 521-7280

Kingston Area

(613) 545-4553

London Area

(519) 438-5111

Mississauga Area

(905) 897-3100

Northern Area

(705) 564-6699

Ottawa Area

(613) 787-4228

Peterborough Area

(705) 742-9292

Toronto Area

(416) 325-0500

Waterloo Area

(519) 886-4700

Windsor Area

(519) 254-1651

Student Venture

Provides loans for up to \$3,000 for students aged 15-29 who are interested in starting and opening a summer business. Interest is paid monthly at prime rate plus one per cent. The program is co-sponsored by the Royal Bank of Canada. Females currently make up approximately 22-25 per cent of the participants.

Contact: For applications, contact any Royal Bank branch. For program information, call the Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Tourism at (416) 326-5826.

Summer Employment through the Ontario Ranger Program

Encourages young people to learn about resource management and sustainable development.

Contact: Youth Program Office, Ministry of Natural Resources, (705) 755-2014.

Summer Experience Program

Summer positions are made available in the Ontario Public Service, its associated agencies and community groups for young people between the ages of 15-24 years (or up to 29 years for persons with disabilities). The individual must be eligible to work in Canada and be a resident of Ontario. Jobs last about seven weeks.

Applications and a list of jobs are available in April at schools, Youth Employment Counselling Centres, Human Resources Canada, Employment Centres for students and local MPPs' offices.

Contact: The Training Hotline, Management Board of Cabinet – (416) 326-5656 or toll free at 1-800-387-0777.

Telecommunications Access Partnerships (TAP)

The TAP initiative works with entrepreneur sectors and communities to improve Ontario's competitiveness through advanced telecommunications applications and infrastructure. Ontario-based groups or consortia can submit proposals that develop shared regional or community networks involving broad-based public and private sector partnerships that improve access to advanced information highway services.

Contact: Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Tourism, (416) 326-9639.

Trade Development Services

Trade Development Services (of the Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Tourism) support businesses in developing their export capabilities and in developing markets for their exports to the U.S. or abroad.

Contact: developing export capabilities of businesses (416) 325-6515; developing markets world-wide (416) 314-8246.

Women's Centres

These multi-service, community-based organizations provide a variety of services including information and referral. Staff assist women in identifying and taking the critical steps to move from economic dependence to self-sufficiency, and from situations of abuse to security.

The Ontario Women's Directorate (OWD) provides funding support to 19 centres throughout the province.

Contact: for general information contact the OWD at (416) 314-0363. For specific program information for the Women's Centres receiving support from the OWD, contact the one nearest you:

Aurora

Aim for Change
(905) 727-5837

Bancroft

Tamarack Women's Resource Centre
(613) 332-1878

Goderich

Women Today of Huron
(519) 524-6767

Hamilton

Women's Centre of Hamilton-Wentworth
(905) 522-0127

Kenora

Women's Place Kenora
(807) 468-9095

North York

North York Women's Centre
(416) 781-0479

Oakville

Women's Information and
Support Centre of Halton
(905) 847-5520

Ottawa

Women's Place/Place Aux Femmes
(613) 231-5144

Rexdale

Rexdale Women's Centre
(416) 745-0062

Scarborough

Scarborough Women's Centre
(416) 439-7111

Sudbury

Sudbury Women's Centre
(705) 673-1916

Thunder Bay

Northern Women's Centre
(807) 345-7802

Toronto

Common Ground Women's Centre
(416) 651-3211

Native Women's Resource Centre
(416) 963-9963

Riverdale Immigrant Women's Centre
(416) 465-6021

Times Change Women's
Employment Service
(416) 927-1900

Working Women's Community Centre
(416) 532-2824

Windsor

Windsor Women Working with
Immigrant Women
(519) 973-5588


Windsor Women's Incentive Centre
(519) 966-0992

Youth Business Start-Up Program

The 1997 Ontario Budget announced the Youth Business Start-Up Loan Program to provide loans of up to \$7,500 to foster self-employment among youth aged 18-29.

The program is currently under development in cooperation with banks and private sector organizations.

Contact: Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Tourism, (416) 326-5826.



Opening Doors

*Women &
Education*

Career Planning for Women

This eight-week program assists women who are entering or re-entering the labour force to help them understand present employment conditions, to select realistic career goals, and to enter appropriate employment or begin suitable training. It is offered at various colleges throughout the province.

Contact: Ministry of Education and Training, (416) 325-1931, Fax: (416) 327-1853.

Community Food Advisor

Trained volunteers provide information/education to promote safe and nutritious food selection, preparation and storage practices to consumers.

Contact: Program Consultant, Agriculture and Rural Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, (519) 826-3279.

Introduction to Electronics for Women

This 20-week certificate program is offered at Confederation College located in Thunder Bay and is designed to provide a basic introduction to electricity and electronics. The program provides specialized training in basic electronics and computer applications.

Contact: Ministry of Education and Training, (416) 325-1931, Fax: (416) 327-1853.

Introduction to Non-Traditional Occupations

This eight-week certificate program is designed to prepare women for occupations generally regarded as traditionally male. It is offered at various colleges throughout the province.

Contact: Ministry of Education and Training, (416) 325-1931, Fax: (416) 327-1853.

Trades and Technology Preparation for Women

This 12-week certificate program is available at Conestoga College in Kitchener/Waterloo and is designed to prepare women to explore and/or maintain employment in non-traditional areas.

Contact: Ministry of Education and Training, (416) 325-1931, Fax: (416) 327-1853.

Training/Education in Agricultural Production/ Farm Safety

Covers a wide range of topics related to crop and livestock production, adaptation of technology and safety.

Contact: Local Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Offices or the Agriculture and Rural Division, (519) 826-3285.

Training/Education in Business Management

Training opportunities are offered locally on various business topics including financial management, marketing, human resources and succession planning for farm businesses or small businesses.

Contact: Local Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Offices or the Agriculture and Rural Division, (519) 826-3285.

Women into Trades and Technology

This 18-week certificate program is available at 23 community colleges. It prepares women to enter upgrading or skilled trades or technical training courses, qualify for apprenticeship or employer sponsored training courses, or secure employment in the trades or technology fields.

Contact: Ministry of Education and Training, (416) 325-1931, Fax: (416) 327-1853.

Working Skills for Women

This 52-week program is available at George Brown and Seneca Colleges. Students develop new skills in mathematics, science, communications, life management, and computer literacy, to move into training, apprenticeship, and on-the-job training in new technology or non-traditional occupations. A 25-week version of this program, called High Technology For Women, is available at Lambton College.

Contact: Ministry of Education and Training, (416) 325-1931, Fax: (416) 327-1853.

Opening Doors



*Women &
Employment*

Employment Programs

Ontario Works encourages employment through 'Employment Support' and 'Employment Placement'.

'Employment Support' includes activities that support participants in their efforts to become job-ready and find the shortest route to paid employment, such as structured job-search assistance, basic education, and job-specific skills training. Communities and public, non-profit and private sector organizations can be involved in delivering Employment Support locally. It includes self-initiated activities, if approved.

'Employment Placement' supports participants in their efforts to become job-ready, to find and maintain paid employment and it assists participants interested in self-employment to develop business enterprises. Compensation is paid to agencies on a performance basis, using a share of the funds that would otherwise be paid out in social assistance to the participant. It includes self-initiated activities, if approved.

Contact: Local Ministry of Community and Social Services Offices:

Barrie Area

(705) 737-1311 or
1-800-461-7551

Hamilton Area

(905) 521-7280

Kingston Area

(613) 545-4510

London Area

(519) 438-5111

Mississauga Area

(905) 566-6564

Northern Area

(705) 564-6699

Ottawa Area

(613) 787-5271

Peterborough Area

(705) 742-9292

Toronto Area

(416) 325-0680

Waterloo Area

(519) 886-4700

Windsor Area

(519) 254-1651

Equal Opportunity Plan (EOP) – Supports to Employers and Employees

The Government of Ontario's guiding principle to equal opportunity is that merit should be rewarded in the workplace. Equal opportunity is inclusive, voluntary and built on partnerships among employers, employees and government.

The foundation for EOP is the *Ontario Human Rights Code*, under which discrimination is against the law. The Code prohibits discrimination on the grounds of race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, family status, disability, the receipt of public assistance (in accommodation area only), and record of offenses (in employment area only).

The EOP acknowledges that certain barriers may prevent employers from identifying the best people for jobs, promotions and training opportunities, and may prevent employees – particularly persons with disabilities – from making the most of their particular abilities.

There are a number of ways to get more information about equal opportunity:

Contact:

Website

Visit the world-wide website at:

<http://www.equal.opportunity.on.ca>

This site, developed in co-operation with Ontario employers and organizations, is a valuable resource for getting and sharing ideas, experience and information on equal opportunity in the workplace. Some of the areas that can be accessed include: a resource library; examples of organizations' initiatives; information for employers on how to include persons with disabilities in their workplaces; information for persons with disabilities on workplace access and integration; listings of diversity-related newsletters and publications; and links to a disability-in-the-workplace directory and to other major diversity-management and equal-opportunity-related sites.

Write

Ministry of Citizenship, Culture
and Recreation
The Equal Opportunity Project
7th Floor, 77 Bloor Street West
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
M7A 2R9

E-mail

info@equal opportunity.on.ca

Call

Automated information and fax-on-demand
service (416) 325-4957 from the 416/905
calling area; or 1-888-325-4957 toll-free in
Ontario.

TTY/TTD

(Telephone Device for the Deaf)

Contact Bell Canada Relay Service (711) and
ask to be connected to (416) 314-6812 from
the 416/905 calling area; or 1-800-491-5104
toll-free in Ontario.

Specialized Employment Services and Supports

These programs provide social assistance beneficiaries who have barriers to employment with the supports and assistance they need to gain experience to enter the workplace and reduce their dependence on social assistance.

Sheltered Workshops, Vocational
Rehabilitation Services (VRS) Training
Allowances and Benefits, and Rehabilitation
Services for persons with disabilities are
supported through these programs.

Contact: Local Ministry of Community and
Social Services Offices (as above – see
Employment Programs).

Opening Doors



*Women & Health
and Social Services*

Aboriginal Healing and Wellness Strategy (AHWS)

The Aboriginal Healing and Wellness Strategy provides a comprehensive approach to reducing family violence and improving the health of Aboriginal individuals, families and communities. The Strategy is made up of two inter-related components:

- a framework for dealing with the immediate and long-term measures related to family violence and dysfunction in Aboriginal communities; and
- a framework to improve Aboriginal health through access to primary care.

This is an interministerial initiative, jointly managed by the ministries of Community and Social Services, Health, the Ontario Native Affairs Secretariat, the Ontario Women's Directorate and nine provincial Aboriginal organizations. The Ministry of Community and Social Services is the lead ministry.

Contact: AHWS Project Office
(416) 326-6905.

AIDS Information

The AIDS Bureau provides updated information on all AIDS-related issues and funding to community-based groups, supervises the anonymous HIV testing program and provides general educational information to the public.

Among the community-based AIDS groups which receive funding are a number which provide support to HIV-infected women and their families.

Contact: (416) 392-2437 or 1-800-668-2437 for the English toll-free line or 1-800-267-7432 for the French toll-free line.

Assistive Devices Program (ADP) and Home Oxygen Program

These Ministry of Health programs contribute to the cost of selected and prescribed equipment and supplies for Ontario residents who have long-term physical disabilities.

Devices covered include: prostheses, wheelchair/mobility aids and specialized seating systems, ostomy supplies, hearing aids, and respiratory equipment.

Contact: Assistive Devices Program: (416) 327-8804, (416) 327-8726 (TTY) or toll-free 1-800-268-6021, 1-800-268-6023 (TTY). Home Oxygen Program: toll-free 1-800-387-5559.

Child Welfare Services

Children's Aid Societies

The Societies provide for temporary or permanent guardianship of children separated from their parents for various reasons; counselling services for children or families; protection of children from physical/emotional abuse or neglect; and alternative care such as foster care or adoption.

Also included as part of the child welfare services are Indian Child Welfare Initiatives on reserves, and two Native Children's Aid Societies.

Contact: Local Ministry of Community and Social Services Offices (as below – see Children's Services).

Children's Services

Residential and Non-Residential Services

These services are provided to protect children from physical/emotional abuse or neglect.

Services include:

- Counselling services to children and families;
- Residential accommodation for children troubled by family stress, in conflict with the law/community or exhibiting disturbed behavior;
- Support to Child Care centres, private home child care and supportive services;
- Care, custody and counselling to children under 16 in conflict with the law through correctional services; and
- Adoption services.

Community Support Services

Support or prevention services are available to provide immediate help for children at risk. Community Support Services include infant development programs, support and residential services to teen mothers, parental relief, family service workers, speech and language services, community resource centres and toy libraries.

Contact: Local Ministry of Community and Social Services Offices:

Barrie Area

(705) 737-1311 or 1-800-461-7551

Hamilton Area

(905) 521-7280

Kingston Area

(613) 545-4505

London Area

(519) 438-5111

Mississauga Area

(905) 897-3100

Northern Area

(705) 675-4250

Ottawa Area

(613) 787-3968 or (613) 787-5285

Peterborough Area

(705) 742-9292

Toronto Area

(416) 325-0525

Waterloo Area

(519) 886-4700

Windsor Area

(519) 254-1651

Developmental Services

People with developmental disabilities are supported in community living opportunities through the transfer of funds to individuals and non-profit agencies.

The range of services funded include supported employment, sheltered workshops, lifeskills, and other supportive day programs for adults with developmental disabilities. Infant stimulation, behavior management services, and respite care for children, adults and their families are also provided.

To enhance and maintain the quality of life for persons with developmental disabilities, special services for children living in their family homes are also funded, as are services for people with developmental disabilities who live in facilities directly funded by the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

Contact: (as above).

Drug and Alcohol Registry of Treatment (DART)

This Ministry of Health program is a province-wide bilingual information and referral service which provides information about access to Ontario's addiction treatment system. DART also provides confidential referral to agencies that offer treatment services specific to women.

Contact: toll-free 1-800-565-8603.

Eating Disorder Information Centre

The Ministry of Health funds an eating disorder information centre which responds to community requests for information/referrals and education sessions. A range of medical and non-medical resources are listed with this resource centre. This centre does not provide direct services.

Contact: National Eating Disorder Information Centre (NEDIC) – (416) 340-4156

Eating Disorder Programs

Several specialized eating disorder programs are funded in Ontario. Hospital-sponsored programs are located in Newmarket, Ottawa, Sudbury, Toronto and Windsor.

All of these programs are part of the developing provincial network for eating disorder treatment in Ontario.

Contact:

Newmarket

York County Hospital
(905) 895-4521, ext. 2215

Ottawa

Ottawa General Hospital
(613) 737-8042

Sudbury

Sudbury General Hospital
(705) 671-3320

Toronto

Toronto Hospital
(416) 340-4800, ext. 4156

Windsor

Hotel Dieu Grace Hospital (in collaboration with BANA – Bulimia/Anorexia Nervosa Association) (519) 253-7545

Hospital and Home Care Services

Essential hospital care services, including all physician and nursing care, prescription drugs and diagnostic services done in hospital such as lab tests and x-rays, are paid for by the Ministry of Health. In addition, the Ministry of Health pays for any home care or follow-up care out of hospital that a physician orders.

Contact: Ministry of Health Information Line: (416) 314-5518 or 1-800-268-1154 toll-free and 1-800-387-5559 for toll-free TTY.

In-Vitro Fertilization (IVF) Clinics

There are five hospital-based IVF clinics in Ontario. The majority of patients seen at these IVF clinics are women with bilateral fallopian tube blockage who are eligible for funded IVF.

Contact:

Hamilton

Chedoke-McMaster Hospitals – In-Vitro Fertilization Clinic (905) 521-5058 or (905) 525-9140 ext. 22566

London

University Hospital – In-Vitro Fertilization Program (519) 663-2966

Ottawa

Ottawa Civic Hospital – GOAL Program (613) 761-4100

Toronto

Toronto Hospital – Division of Reproductive Biology (416) 340-3214 or (416) 340-3819

Toronto East General Hospital
LIFE PROGRAM (416) 469-6590

Information Services for Vulnerable Adults

The Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation will be supporting an Information Service for Vulnerable Adults, i.e., those who due to disability, medical condition, advanced age, or communication impairment have difficulty acting on or expressing themselves. The service includes a provincial telephone referral service and a clearinghouse of information.

Operation of the service will be contracted to community organizations, expected to begin in the fall of 1997. It is meant to be a “one-stop shopping” service which will link the many existing information sources. It will assist vulnerable adults, their families, service providers and caregivers in obtaining the information they need. Until the service is contracted, the Ministry will continue to provide an interim telephone referral line.

Contact: 1-800-665-9092 or (416) 314-8910; TTY (416)314-8934.

Long-Term Care Programs

These programs serve senior citizens, adults with physical disabilities, persons with acquired brain injury, persons (including children) who require health services at home, and children who require health services to remain in school.

The programs, funded and monitored by the Long-Term Care Regional Offices, include: long-term care facilities, community support services, elderly persons centres, homemakers and nurses services, supportive housing, attendant outreach programs, children’s treatment centres, placement coordination services and palliative care initiatives.

Contact: Long Term Care (LTC) Regional Offices:

Barrie

(705) 739-6470 or toll-free 1-800-463-0102

Hamilton

(905) 546-8294

Kingston

(613) 531-9629 or toll-free 1-800-667-1062

London

(519) 675-7680 or toll-free 1-800-265-4197

North Bay

(705) 494-4024 or toll-free 1-800-363-8157

Ottawa

(613) 241-4263 or toll-free 1-800-267-8588

Peterborough

(705) 741-5634 or toll-free 1-800-567-1045

Sudbury

(705) 564-3130 or toll-free 1-800-663-6965

Thunder Bay

(807) 346-9300

Toronto

(416) 327-8952 or toll-free 1-800-595-9394

Windsor

(519) 250-0788 or toll-free 1-800-667-5953

Mental Health and Addiction Services

Mental Health Services are available from psychiatric hospitals, specialty hospitals, general hospitals, psychiatric units, community mental health programs, homes for people discharged from psychiatric hospitals, self-help groups run by consumers/survivors and psychiatrists and family physicians.

Contact: Personal physicians or health care providers can make referrals to specific services that may be required.

Northern Health Travel Grant (NHTG) Program

This Ministry of Health program offsets the cost of travel for residents of Northern Ontario who must travel long distances to receive medical specialty services.

Contact: NHTG Program – Sudbury –
(705) 675-4010 or toll-free 1-800-461-4006.

Ontario Breast Screening Program (OBSP)

The OBSP offers Ontario women aged 50 to 69 mammography every two years, as well as physical examination of the breasts by a nurse examiner and one-to-one demonstration of breast self-examination.

Contact: OBSP provincial toll-free line:
1-800-668-9304 or call local Breast Screening Programs as listed below:

Barrie

(705) 728-9802

Bracebridge

toll-free 1-800-661-8897

Chatham

(519) 352-9438

Hamilton

(905) 389-0101

Kingston

(613) 384-4284 or toll-free 1-800-465-8850

Listowel

(519) 291-5490

London

(519) 432-0255 or toll-free 1-800-461-0640

Niagara Falls

(905) 358-4937 ext. 3257

North York

(416) 512-0601

Ottawa

(613) 728-0777 or toll-free 1-800-465-6226

Sarnia

(519) 464-4515

Scarborough

(416) 298-2626

St. Catharines

(905) 684-7271 ext. 6362

Sudbury

(705) 675-2283 or toll-free 1-800-661-8897

Thunder Bay

(807) 343-1690 or toll-free 1-800-461-7031

Timmins

(705) 360-6012

Toronto

(416) 946-4450

Trenton

(613) 969-7780 or toll-free 1-888-969-7780

Windsor

(519) 253-0903

Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) Program

The program provides eligible prescription drugs to Ontarians over the age of 65, to individuals receiving home care and to those on social assistance. Such eligible individuals are required to pay a \$2.00 co-payment for each prescription filled.

Contact: Ministry of Health, (416) 327-8109.

Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP)

OHIP covers all essential diagnostic and treatment services for eligible Ontarians.

Contact: Ministry of Health Information Line – (416) 314-5518 or 1-800-268-1154 for toll free line or 1-800-387-5559 for toll-free (TTY) line.

Ontario Pesticide Safety Education Program

The program provides education and training to growers, vendors and users on safe pesticide use and handling, with the goal of reducing health and safety risks for individuals and the environment.

Contact: Local Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Offices or the Coordinator, Ontario Pesticide Education Program, Ridgetown College, Agriculture and Rural Division in Guelph, (519) 674-1586.

Public Health Units

Health promotion and disease prevention programs are administered by the units to inform the public about healthy lifestyles, communicable disease control (including education on sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), AIDS. Other areas of focus include immunization, healthy growth and development (including parenting education), health education for all age groups and selected screening services.

Health Units also offer sexual health programs which provide information on family planning, counselling and clinical services in schools and communities to teens and parents. In addition, they offer reproductive health programs to help people plan their families, promote healthy lifestyles, provide prenatal and pre-conception health education and work to reduce the number of low birth weight babies.

Contact: Below is a listing of the Health Units in Ontario:

The District of Algoma
(705) 759-5287

Brant County
(519) 753-7377

Bruce Gray-Owen Sound
(519) 376-9420

Durham Regional
(905) 723-8521 or (905) 686-2740

Borough of East York
(416) 461-8136

Eastern Ontario
(613) 933-1375

Elgin St. Thomas
(519) 631-9900

Etobicoke
(416) 394-8300

Haldimand-Norfolk Regional
(519) 426-6170

Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District
(905) 885-9100

Halton Regional
(905) 825-6060

Hamilton-Wentworth Regional
(905) 546-3500

Hastings & Prince Edward Counties
(613) 966-5500

Huron County
(519) 482-3416

Kent-Chatham
(519) 352-7270

Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox & Addington
(613) 549-1232

Lambton
(519) 383-8331

Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District
(613) 345-5685

Middlesex-London
(519) 663-5317

Muskoka-Parry Sound
(705) 645-4471

Niagara Regional
(905) 688-3762

North Bay & District
(705) 474-1400

Northwestern
(807) 468-3147

North York
(416) 395-7700

Ottawa Carleton Regional
(613) 722-2328

Oxford County
(519) 539-6121

Peel Regional
(905) 791-9400

Perth District
(519) 271-7600

Peterborough County
(705) 743-1000

Porcupine
(705) 267-1181

Renfrew County & District
(613) 732-3629

Scarborough
(416) 396-7445

Simcoe County
(705) 721-7330

Sudbury & District
(705) 522-9200

Thunder Bay District
(807) 625-5900

Timiskaming
(705) 647-4305
Toronto
(416) 392-7401
Waterloo Regional
(519) 883-2000
Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph
(519) 843-2460
Windsor-Essex County
(519) 258-2146
York
(416) 394-2436
York Regional
(905) 895-4511

Seniors' Month

The Seniors' Secretariat coordinates Seniors' Month each June, a celebration of Ontario's seniors and their accomplishments. Seniors' Month also offers an opportunity to focus on significant issues affecting seniors. Special events take place across the province including the annual Senior Achievement Awards ceremony.

Women make up approximately 58 per cent of Ontario's senior population. The Secretariat takes their specific concerns into consideration in all of its work, and pays special attention to gender issues as they relate to seniors. For example, the prevention of elder abuse is an important focus for the Secretariat. Issues related to caregiving are also being reviewed. Since the aging population is increasing and at present the majority of caregivers are women, this is an area of great concern which must be addressed in health, social and economic contexts.

In addition to addressing issues of concern to seniors, the Secretariat works to dispel ageism, misinformed attitudes toward aging and the elderly, as well as incorrect information about the needs, concerns and contributions of senior citizens. Another important part of the Secretariat's mandate is to support the Minister Responsible for Seniors in the management and implementation of the reform of Ontario's long-term care system.

Contact: (416) 326-9906 or visit the Seniors' Secretariat on the Internet at <http://www.gov.on.ca/health/seniors/index.html>.

Sexual Assault Treatment/ Care Centres (SATC/SACC)

Provide 24 hour immediate medical and nursing care to victims of sexual assault. The centres also administer the forensic evidence kit, tests for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), and provide medical follow-up, crisis intervention and referral services.

Contact: Provincial Network Coordinator – (416) 323-6400 ext. 4472. The following lists Sexual Assault Treatment/Care Centres in Ontario:

Belleville
(613) 968-5547
Brantford
(519) 751-5507
Brockville
(613) 345-3881
Chatham
(519) 352-2500 ext. 387
Cornwall
(613) 932-3300 ext. 4400 or
(613) 932-1608
Guelph
(519) 822-5350, ext. 210
Hamilton
(905) 521-2100 ext. 5733
Kenora
(807) 468-9861, ext. 428
Kitchener-Waterloo
(519) 749-6994
Lanark County
(613) 283-2330 ext. 1258
London
(519) 646-6100 ext. 4579
Mississauga
(905) 848-7493
Orangeville
(519) 941-2410 ext. 214
(ext. 255 voice-mail)
Orillia
(705) 327-9155
Oshawa
(905) 576-8711 ext. 3286 or
(905) 668-3050 for counselling services
Ottawa
(613) 738-7100 ext. 2380
Owen Sound
(519) 376-2121 ext. 2458
Peterborough
(705) 743-4132

Renfrew
 (613) 432-4851 or 1-800-363-7222
Richmond Hill
 (905) 883-2383
Sarnia
 (519) 464-4400 ext. 4477
Sault Ste. Marie
 (705) 759-5143
Scarborough
 (416) 495-2555
St. Catharines
 (905) 684-7271 ext. 5300/5301
Sudbury
 (705) 675-4743
Thunder Bay
 (807) 343-2431
Toronto
 (416) 813-6178 (Pediatric Sexual Assault
 Centre for S. Ontario) (416) 323-6041
 (Adult Services)
Whitby (see Oshawa listing) &
 (905) 668-3050 for counselling services
Windsor
 (519) 255-2234

Trillium Drug Program

The program helps individuals who have high prescription drug costs in relation to their income. To receive benefits through this program, individuals must first pay approximately four per cent of their family's net income on their drug costs. Once eligible, individuals will be required to pay up to \$2.00 for each prescription filled.

Contact: Trillium Drug Program toll-free hot line: 1-800-575-5386.

Vital Statistics

The Office of the Registrar registers births, deaths, stillbirths, adoptions and marriages that occur in Ontario. Certificates or certified copies are available to eligible applicants upon payment of appropriate fees. The office also processes applications for name changes.

Contact: By mail - Office of the Registrar General, P.O. Box 4600, 189 Red River Rd., Thunder Bay, Ontario, P7B 6L8.

For Walk-in Office*:

Hamilton – 119 King St., 4th Fl.

London – 80 Dundas St.

North Bay – Court House, 360 Plouffe St.

Ottawa – 161 Elgin St., 4th Fl.

Thunder Bay – 189 Red River Rd., 2nd Fl.

Toronto – 900 Bay St., 2nd Fl.

For General Inquiries in the Greater Toronto Area – (416) 965-1687 or toll-free at 1-800-461-2156.

* Premium same day service for walk-in clients is available for an additional fee for certain certificates.

Willow – The Ontario Breast Cancer Support and Resource Centre

This is a community-based, survivor-driven information, support and resource centre in Toronto for women with breast cancer.

Contact: (416) 778-5000 or toll-free 1-888-778-3100.

Women's Health Centres

These centres offer a range of women-specific health services such as counselling, reproductive health care programs and information and referral services.

Contact:

Peterborough

Peterborough Civic Hospital

(705) 876-5031

Sault Ste. Marie

Group Health Centre (HSO)

(705) 759-1234

Toronto

Regional Women's Health Centre

(416) 586-0211

St. Joseph's Health Centre

(416) 530-6850

Women's Health in Women's Hands

(416) 593-7655



Opening Doors

*Women &
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Bill 96, Proposed Tenant Protection Act

Bill 96, the proposed *Tenant Protection Act*, will reform Ontario's system of rent regulation, maintain tenant protection, improve maintenance of rental housing, and set the stage for the construction of new rental housing in the province.

Under the Act, tenants will continue to be protected from unfair rent increases by the rent control guidelines. Tenants will also be protected from arbitrary evictions and will be able to challenge illegal rent increases and apply for rent reductions.

The Act also moves landlord and tenant disputes out of the courts and creates a new, less formal system of adjudication called the Ontario Rental Housing Tribunal.

Contact: Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, (416) 585-7529.

Community Victims' Initiatives Program (CVIP)

CVIP provides funding up to \$50,000 to community groups assisting victims of crime with short-term projects. Projects must be completed within the year they receive funding; new projects are funded annually.

Applicants are asked to focus on a specific theme each year. Non-profit community-based organizations, either incorporated or sponsored by an incorporated organization, First Nation Bands and Tribal Councils are eligible for CVIP funding.

Contact: Ministry of Solicitor General and Correctional Services, Community Initiatives Unit, (416) 325-3265.

Consumer Services

The Consumer Services Bureau answers consumer inquiries and reviews complaints arising from the purchase of goods and services. It also conducts inspections leading to possible investigations. The goods and services include: pre-paid services such as memberships in fitness, health clubs, diet or modeling agencies. It also addresses complaints regarding cemeteries, collection agencies, repossessions and credit reporting, and it deals with complaints about any business practices considered deceptive, unfair or unconscionable.

Contact: Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations, Consumer Affairs Branch, 250 Yonge St., 31st Fl., Toronto (416) 326-8600 in the Toronto area or toll-free 1-800-268-1142.

Travel Industry Council of Ontario

Claims for travel services paid for, but not received, should be brought to the attention of the Travel Industry Council of Ontario.

Contact: Travel Industry Council of Ontario, 1200 Bay St., Suite 1100, Toronto, ON, M5R 2A5, tel: (416) 975-0818.

Ontario Motor Vehicle Industry Council

Complaints about the purchase and sale of motor vehicles through car dealers are handled by the Ontario Motor Vehicle Industry Council.

Contact: Ontario Motor Vehicle Industry Council, 36 York Mills Rd., Suite 110, Toronto, ON, M2J 2C5, tel: (416) 226-4500 in the Toronto area or toll-free 1-800-943-6002.

Motor Vehicle Dealers Compensation Fund

Claims and inquiries for compensation relating to car purchases are dealt with by the Motor Vehicle Dealers Compensation Fund.

Contact: Ontario Motor Vehicle Dealers Compensation Fund, 1200 Bay St., Suite 1100, Toronto, ON, M5R 2A5, tel: (416) 975-0832.

For general inquiry contact (416) 326-8555 in the Toronto area or toll-free 1-800-268-1142. For hearing/speech impaired persons using the TDD Network service contact (416) 326-8566.

Coordination, Support and Research

The Ontario Women's Directorate assumes the overall coordination and administration of the Violence Against Women Prevention initiatives. It distributes funds to support more than 30 programs and services in nine participating ministries to prevent and combat violence against women. The Directorate also supports policy development work as it relates to violence against women, administers grants and monitors the initiatives.

Contact: (416) 314-0336.

Designated Domestic Assault Coordinator

At least one prosecutor in each Crown Attorney's office has been designated to coordinate the prosecution of wife assault cases. These prosecutors have received training in the social, psychological and legal issues associated with wife assault prosecutions. Designated Crowns serve as a resource to their colleagues on wife assault cases in their home jurisdictions.

Contact: Local Crown Attorney's Office.

Designated Sexual Assault Coordinator

At least one Crown Attorney in each office has been designated as a coordinator for sexual assault prosecutions. These Crown Attorneys receive training in the social, psychological and legal issues associated with sexual abuse prosecutions. The designated Crown will serve as a resource to their colleagues on sexual assault cases in their home jurisdictions.

Contact: Local Crown Attorney's Office.

Domestic Violence Courts

In January 1997, two projects for specialized domestic violence courts were launched in North York and Toronto's Old City Hall. These are being expanded to six additional locations across the province. Improving the safety of victims of domestic violence is an important component of the courts. Intervention programs for male batterers form a crucial part of these courts. Victim/witness assistance and support is also an essential component of the Domestic Violence Courts Program.

Contact: Ministry of the Attorney General, Communications Branch, (416) 326-2220.

Education of Health Professionals

Grants are provided to health care organizations, professional associations, educational institutions, community agencies and women's groups for initiatives that educate health professionals and promote changes in health care practice for the benefit of women who are victims of domestic violence or sexual assault.

Contact: Ministry of Health, (416) 314-8260.

Emergency Legal Advice

The goal of this project is to increase the accessibility of legal advice to victims of family violence by increasing the pool of lawyers with training in family violence and by simplifying the procedures needed to access legal information.

Contact: Ministry of the Attorney General, (416) 326-2429.

Employment Standards Program

Employment Standards Officers are available to hear complaints about employment violations, to advise and to investigate where a violation of the *Employment Standards Act* is found. The Act covers: minimum wage, vacation with pay, public holidays, overtime pay, equal pay for equal work, termination of employment, severance pay, hours of work, pregnancy leave, parental leave, Sunday and holiday work in retail businesses and the employee wage protection program (also see Pay Equity below).

Contact: For complaints about a specific situation, contact the Ministry of Labour office nearest you. The Ministry of Labour offices are listed in the blue pages of the telephone book.

For more information about the law, check the Ministry's website at <http://www.gov.on.ca/LAB/main.html> or contact the Facts (fax) on Demand system at (416) 326-6546.

Human Rights Code

The Ontario Human Rights Commission enforces the *Ontario Human Rights Code*, which was established to eliminate all forms of discrimination and provide for equal rights and opportunities for every person in Ontario. The Code prohibits discrimination on the grounds of race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, family status, disability, the receipt of public assistance (in accommodation area only), and record of offenses (in employment area only). Materials are available on sexual harassment, gender-related comments and jokes, and pregnancy-related guidelines.

Contact: (416) 326-9511 or 1-800-387-9080 for toll-free calls, or visit the Ontario Human Rights Commission website at <http://www.ohrc.on.ca>. For TTY/TTD call 1-800-309-1129 in the Toronto area or 1-800-308-5561 in other parts of the province.

Male Batterer Accountability Programs

The programs are for male offenders who have been found guilty of, or have been identified as being abusive to their female partners. The programs are also designed to contribute to women's safety. Victim support is a key aspect of these programs.

By addressing power and control issues, rather than anger management, they emphasize the perpetrator's responsibility for his actions and that domestic violence is a crime that will result in prosecution. Attendance can be mandated in a probation order or parole certificate.

Contact: See the local telephone book or call the Victim Support Line toll-free at 1-888-579-2888 or (416) 314-2447 in the Toronto area.

Northern Ontario Wife Assault/Sexual Assault Prevention Initiatives

The Ministry of Northern Development and Mines provides grants to Northern Ontario organizations and groups to increase the accessibility of services related to wife assault and sexual assault prevention. Priorities are given to prevention and education services, and programs which will enhance the current service level, promote increased awareness of the issue, and/ or complement other provincial government initiatives in Northern Ontario. Activities funded under the program include research studies, public education, self-help and outreach programs, workshops conferences and minor capital expenses.

Contact: (807) 475-1568.

Occupational Health and Safety Program

Occupational Health and Safety Inspectors inspect workplaces and investigate complaints about unsafe work practices. These complaints can be made anonymously. The inspectors will issue orders where they find violations of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and regulations. The Act sets out the rights and responsibilities of all the parties in the workplace – the employer, the supervisor and the worker.

Contact: If a health and safety concern can not be resolved internally, contact the nearest Ministry of Labour office listed in the blue pages.

For more information about specific hazards, check the Ministry's website at <http://www.gov.on.ca/LAB/main.html>.

Partners for Change

Through public and private sector partnerships, the Ontario Women's Directorate (OWD) assists the Ontario Government in achieving its commitment to the social, economic and legal equality of women.

To support these priorities, the OWD has launched a multi-sector partnership initiative called Partners for Change which consists of two components: Partners for Change Projects and Partners for Change Networks.

Partnerships are encouraged among a range of sectors including business, labour, voluntary, education and health to develop initiatives and establish networks that foster women's economic self-sufficiency and to stop violence. Partners contribute resources and expertise, share responsibility and develop projects that lead to equal opportunity for women.

Current Partners for Change Projects include Women and Entrepreneurship – an annotated resource of innovative models in Canada, a multi-media youth awareness campaign and gender equity education.

In addition to bringing these sectors together, the Ontario Women's Directorate provides input and support to ministries within the Ontario Government and encourages public-private sector partnerships that benefit women across Ontario.

Contact: (416) 314-0356 or visit the OWD on the Internet at <http://www.gov.on.ca/OWD>.

Pay Equity

The *Pay Equity Act* requires employers to provide equal pay to female job classes that are of equal value to male job classes.

The Pay Equity Commission provides public education and assistance to employers and bargaining agents. Review officers are available to investigate complaints, and provide dispute resolution services. Where necessary, the Pay Equity Hearing Tribunal will hear cases and make a final and binding determination on all questions of fact and law.

Contact: The Pay Equity Commission toll-free at 1-800-387-8813.

Post Secondary Projects

The Ministry of Education and Training provides \$60,000 each to five community-based pilot projects across the province to develop a transferable model of violence against women prevention services.

Contact: (416) 325-2578.

Priority Project Funding – Grant Program

The Ontario Women's Directorate (OWD) funds community-based organizations to undertake projects that address one of two priority areas: 1) Community Safety and Violence against Women Prevention; and 2) Economic Self-Sufficiency for Women. There is added emphasis on partnership projects which involve collaboration and coordination at the community level.

The maximum funding available for individual projects is \$24,000.

Contact: (416) 314-0339.

Proclamation of Family Responsibility and Support Arrears Enforcement Act, 1996

The Family Responsibility Office (formerly the Family Support Plan) of the Ministry of the Attorney General administers approximately 157,000 cases. More than \$1 billion is owing in arrears to families, mostly children and women.

The Family Support Plan has been significantly restructured, changing it from a cheque processing office to an enforcement agency. Areas of focus of the legislation include Credit Bureau Reporting, Drivers' License Suspension, and changes to wage deduction schemes.

Contact: For basic information about a case clients can call (416) 326-1818 in the Greater Toronto area or elsewhere in Ontario they can call toll-free 1-800-267-4330. For assistance with complex questions clients can contact a Client Services Associate toll-free at 1-800-267-4330.

Professional Development

The Ministry of Education and Training provides training through post-secondary institutions and community organizations to teachers and school staff on important topics in violence against women prevention. Past topics have included French language community-based training on assault prevention; preventing violence in dating relationships; and sexual harassment prevention workshops for teachers of secondary school students.

Contact: (416) 325-2988.

Resource Development

The Ministry of Education and Training works with educational and community organizations to develop educational and training resources for teachers for prevention of violence against women. The Ministry also purchases sample copies of relevant resources which can be suggested for use by school boards on topics such as wife assault, sexual harassment, violence in dating relationships, violence and gender stereotyping in the media.

Contact: (416) 325-2988.

School-Based Services

The School-Based Services program provides up to \$9,000 per school board or minority language section to contract with a local women's shelter for services to children who have witnessed women abuse. Shelter staff provide counselling, school transition support services to mothers and children, prevention education programs for students and teachers, as well as protocol and policy development work with board and school staff.

Contact: Ministry of Education and Training, (416) 325-2988.

Sexual Assault Centres/ Rape Crisis Centres

Basic services provided by the Sexual Assault Centres include:

- 24-hour crisis and support line;
- court, police and hospital accompaniment and support;
- supportive counselling services (one-to-one and group);
- public and professional education regarding the nature and extent of sexual violence;
- information and referral services; and community development and liaison.

Contact: Centres are listed in the local telephone book or call the Victim Support Line toll-free at 1-888-579-2888 or (416) 314-2447 in the Toronto area for referral.

Shelters – Violence Against Women Services

Services for assaulted women and their children include temporary emergency accommodation and residential supports (childcare, crisis telephone lines, counselling, emergency transportation and safe environment programs) in shelters across the province.

Community-based programs include counselling and outreach programs for assaulted women and their families.

Contact: Ministry of Community and Social Services Offices:

Barrie Area

(705) 737-1311 or 1-800-461-7551

Hamilton Area

(905) 521-7280

Kingston Area

(613) 545-4503

London Area

(519) 438-5111

Mississauga Area

(905) 897-3100

Northern Area

(705) 564-6699

Ottawa Area

(613) 787-3965

Peterborough Area

(705) 742-9292

Toronto Area

(416) 325-0525

Waterloo Area

(519) 886-4700

Windsor Area

(519) 254-1651

Staff Training and Resources

The Ministry of the Solicitor General and Correctional Services funds ongoing training on issues of violence against women for police, probation and parole staff, correctional officers, residential staff, and members of parole boards, to strengthen their ability to take appropriate action and make appropriate referrals.

Contact: (905) 548-5000.

Training – Sexual Assault Response

The Ministry of Community and Social Services funds regional training sessions for front-line staff on issues related to sexual assault.

Contact: Local Ministry Offices (as above).

Victim Crisis Assistance and Referral Service (VCARS)

VCARS is a community-run volunteer program that provides immediate crisis assistance to victims of crime and disaster 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Police officers at a crime or accident scene can call on VCARS to send out a team of volunteers to provide this short-term assistance, along with follow-up services and referrals to appropriate community organizations.

Most calls involve domestic violence; many of the people who receive assistance are women.

Contact: Through referral from a local police service, the Ontario Provincial Police or call the Victim Support Line toll-free at 1-888-579-2888 or (416) 314-2447 in the Toronto area.

Victim Impact Statement

A formal, standardized, province-wide Victim Impact Statement came into effect in March, 1994. It provides victims of crime throughout the province the opportunity to describe the physical, emotional, psychological and financial effects of a crime in the form of a Victim Impact Statement. Police are responsible for providing Victim Impact Statement forms to victims during the course of an investigation and the police are responsible for including the completed form in the Crown brief. The presiding judge is required to consider the statement. An information brochure is also available from police officers, Crown offices in local court-houses, women's shelters, counselling services, police services and Victim/Witness Assistance Program offices.

Contact: Ministry of the Attorney General, (416) 326-2429.

Victim of Violence Programs

The programs focus on education and information for incarcerated women. Research has indicated that up to 90 per cent of women who are in conflict with the law have experienced some form of abuse at some time in their lives.

Contact: Available at some correctional institutions including:

Barrie Jail

(705) 739-6613

Elgin-Middlesex Detention Centre

(519) 686-1922

Hamilton West Detention Centre

(905) 523-8800

Kenora Jail

(807) 468-2871

Metro Toronto West Detention Centre

(416) 675-1806

Ottawa-Carlton Detention Centre

(613) 824-6080

Quinte Detention Centre

(613) 354-9701

Sudbury Jail

(705) 564-4150

Vanier Centre (adults and young offenders)

(905) 459-9100

Whitby Jail

(905) 668-7791

Victim Support Line

The Victim Support Line is a toll-free information line that provides victims of crime with access to a selection of services:

- an automated voice tape, providing information on the criminal justice system, from arrest and release procedures, through the court system, to the definitions of parole and probation;
- information from the Ontario Corrections Services or the Ontario Board of Parole on a specific adult offender; or

- direct access to an information counselor who can provide information tailored to the caller's needs about organizations and services available to victims of crime in the caller's home community. Examples of services are sexual assault services, counselling programs, and shelters.

Contact: Call the Victim Support Line 1-888-579-2888 or (416) 314-2447 in the Toronto area for referral.

Victim/Witness Assistance Program

The program is designed to provide a comprehensive service to victims and witnesses of crime to enhance understanding of and participation in the criminal justice system.

Coordinators work with local Crown Attorneys to provide two kinds of service:

- Direct victim/witness assistance including: emotional support to victims, courtroom orientation, explaining legal terminology, acting as a liaison between police and the Crown, and referring victims to community agencies for counselling and other support services.
- Public education activities and community organization for the development of services for victims of crime.

Contact: Ministry of the Attorney General, (416) 326-2429.

Violence Against Women Prevention Initiative (VAWPI)

Responsibility for the administration and reporting for the VAWPI is divided between the post-secondary and elementary/secondary divisions of the Ministry of Education and Training. Programs include more than 60 School Based Service Projects, involving 85 school boards and over 60 shelters for battered women. Projects focus on early intervention with children who witness violence; in-service training for school board staff on sexual harassment; and production of CD ROMs and websites on sexual assault prevention and a variety of violence against women issues.

Contact: Ministry of Education and Training: elementary/secondary – (416) 325-2988, post-secondary – (416) 325-2891.

Violence Against Women Prevention Public Education Program

The Office of Francophone Affairs provides grants to Francophone community groups to undertake public education activities. The focus of the program is to support women who are victims of violence and to educate the Francophone community about issues related to violence. These grants are in addition to Francophone-specific services supported by other ministries.

Contact: (416) 325-4946 or toll-free 1-800-268-7507.

Violence Against Women with a Disability – Prevention Education

This grant program is available to community organizations to develop projects that address rural, local and regional assault/abuse prevention needs for women with disabilities. The purposes of this program are to:

- educate women with disabilities on their moral and legal rights to be free from physical, sexual, emotional and verbal violence, and neglect
- develop and deliver training for those responsible for administering the criminal justice system and law enforcement and for community organizations that respond to the needs of women with disabilities who are victims of abuse
- promote access to relevant services and develop abuse prevention strategies, programs and activities.

Contact: Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, (416) 314-7543.

Wife Assault Prevention/ Cultural Interpreter Services and Training Program

This grant program supports the development and delivery of community-based cultural interpreter services to help non-English/French speaking women who are victims of violence gain access to services such as shelters, legal aid and welfare.

Contact: Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, (416) 314-7543.

Wife Assault Prevention Education Program

Grants support training programs to improve the cross-cultural knowledge and skills of service providers working with immigrant, refugee and racial minority women who are victims of violence. Grants are also given for educational programs which promote the prevention of violence against immigrant and refugee women.

Contact: Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, (416) 314-7543.

Women's Campus Safety

Since 1990, funding has been provided to colleges and universities to promote women's safety on campuses. Funding support is available for a variety of initiatives including the establishment of sexual harassment prevention policies, improvement to the physical plants, safety and security measures, and prevention/education activities.

Contact: Ministry of Education and Training, (416) 325-2891.

Women's Centres

These multi-service, community-based organizations provide a variety of services including information and referral. Staff assist women in identifying and taking the critical steps to move from situations of abuse to security, and from economic dependence to self-sufficiency.

The Ontario Women's Directorate (OWD) provides funding support to 19 centres throughout the province.

Contact: For general information contact the OWD at (416) 314-0363. For specific program information for the Women's Centres receiving support from the OWD, contact the one nearest you:

Aurora

Aim for Change
(905) 727-5837

Bancroft

Tamarack Women's Resource Centre
(613) 332-1878

Goderich

Women Today of Huron
(519) 524-6767

Hamilton

Women's Centre of Hamilton-Wentworth
(905) 522-0127

Kenora

Women's Place Kenora
(807) 468-9095

North York

North York Women's Centre
(416) 781-0479

Oakville

Women's Information and
Support Centre of Halton
(905) 847-5520

Ottawa

Women's Place/Place Aux Femmes
(613) 231-5144

Rexdale

Rexdale Women's Centre
(416) 745-0062

Scarborough

Scarborough Women's Centre
(416) 439-7111

Sudbury

Sudbury Women's Centre
(705) 673-1916

Thunder Bay

Northern Women's Centre
(807) 345-7802

Toronto

Common Ground Women's Centre
(416) 651-3211
Native Women's Resource Centre
(416) 963-9963
Riverdale Immigrant Women's Centre
(416) 465-6021
Times Change Women's
Employment Service
(416) 927-1900
Working Women's Community Centre
(416) 532-2824

Windsor

Windsor Women Working with
Immigrant Women
(519) 973-5588
Windsor Women's Incentive Centre
(519) 966-0992

Opening Doors



*Women &
Recreation*

Active Living

This program encourages children and youth in schools, adults in the workplace and older adults to participate in sport, recreation and physical activity. It aims to increase the physical activity of 13 to 19-year-old females by 15 per cent.

Contact: Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, (416) 314-7675.

Anti-Harassment Measures

This initiative is designed to eliminate harassment and sexual abuse in amateur sport and recreation. The Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation has provided sport and recreation organizations with a manual and video to help them develop preventative strategies. The ministry will also give financial support to sport organizations that are developing initiatives to prevent abuse.

Contact: Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, (416) 314-7197.

Becoming an Outdoors Woman

This is a flexible program for women including courses in camping and canoeing, hunting and trapping, fishing and resource management planning at the L.M. Frost Centre in Dorset, in conjunction with the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH).

Contact: (705) 748-6324 or write OFAH, P.O. Box 2800, Peterborough, Ontario K9J 8L5.

Community Fisheries/Wildlife Involvement Program

Encourages hands-on activities by individuals and groups such as Girl Guides and Scouts to increase their involvement in and knowledge of wildlife and fish.

Contact: The Ministry of Natural Resources District Office in your area. The phone number can be found in the blue pages of the telephone book.

Female Athletes Motivating Excellence (FAME)

FAME is a role model program that introduces young girls to women who have succeeded as athletes, coaches, journalists, sport administrators, researchers and other professionals. Classroom visits and keynote speakers at athletic banquets are the most common initiatives.

Contact: Leadership Training Centre at the Ontario Sport and Recreation Centre, (416) 426-7054.

Frost Centre Discovery Days

Informative day programs for families wanting to gain a better understanding of the natural world; for example, discovering minerals, bats, loons and more.

Contact: Frost Centre (705) 766-2451 or R.R. #2 Minden, ON, K0M 2K0.

Ontario Family Fishing Weekend

An annual family event that encourages people who have never fished to “grab a line and come out” for the day or camp and fish for the weekend. Fishing licences are not required for that weekend.

Contact: Ministry of Natural Resources, (705) 755-2551.

Take a Kid Fishing Week

An annual summer event held throughout Ontario in early August, designed to encourage children to get interested in sports fishing.

Contact: Ministry of Natural Resources, (705) 755-2551.

The Stewardship Series

An informative series of day-long workshops for landowners and cottage owners designed to promote a better understanding of ecosystems and explore topics such as managing woodlots, working near water, etc.

Contact: Frost Centre (705) 766-2451 or R.R. #2 Minden, ON, K0M 2K0.

Wilderness Navigation Skills Course

Basic wilderness navigation course for adults that develops map and compass reading skills.

Contact: Ministry of Natural Resources, (905) 852-6151.

Youth at Risk

This program encourages 15 to 19-year-olds to get involved in sport, recreation and physical activity. By participating in sport and recreation, young women learn positive personal and social behavior.

Contact: Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, (416) 314-7675.

For more information

'Opening Doors' has been published by the Ontario Women's Directorate.

To obtain copies of this publication, please contact us at:

The Ontario Women's Directorate

6th Floor, Mowat Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1L2

Phone: (416) 314-0300

Fax: (416) 314-0256

You can also access this publication on the Internet. Our website address is:
<http://www.gov.on.ca/OWD>